

REMARKS

In accordance with the foregoing, various original claims have been amended to improve form and new claims 11 through 20 have been added thereby varying the scope of protection for the invention. Further, the abstract has been amended to comply with the rules.

No new matter is presented in any of the foregoing and, accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the claims and abstract amendments be entered.

STATUS OF CLAIMS

All of the pending claims 1 through 10 are rejected.

New claims 11 through 20 are added.

Accordingly, claims 1 through 20 are pending in this application.

Page 2 of the Action: Rejection of Claims 1 through 10 for Anticipation under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) by Elko (U.S.P. No. 5,537,574)

The rejection is respectfully traversed.

The present invention relates to a file device and file access method that divides a file into blocks and stores the file in the form of the divided blocks; producing management information concerning the file dividing manner (block allocation manner); and also, before storing the file itself, storing the management information with a necessary correspondence with the file stored in the form of the divided blocks. Thereby, even when a problem occurs during the storage processing of the file whereby the entire file cannot be stored properly (i.e., some blocks of the file cannot be stored properly), blocks of the file which are stored properly can be properly read out with the use of the management information.

In contrast thereto, Elko et al. discloses an art of recording data elements in local cache buffers, and carrying out coherence control for the data elements so that, in a situation in which the data elements are shared by CPCs (central processing complexes), it may be guaranteed that any page of data in a shared cache will not be overwritten by an earlier version of that page obtained from any other shared data storage resource (see Elko et al., column 4, lines 52-56).

In the disclosure of Elko et al., we cannot find a concept of "dividing a single independent file" or "storing a single independent file in a form of divisions of the file in separate units of storage means, respectively" of the present invention. In fact, according to Elko et al., each "data element" seems to be a data collection, which is rather regarded as a single independent file or such. Elko et al. discloses, column 5, lines 12-15, "With this invention, these different programs may be accessing the same or different data elements or recorded in the data base,

which may simultaneously be in ME/ES local caches (LCs) of the different CPCs." From this part of the disclosure, one should understand that according to Elko et al., each data element is handled individually by a CPC, because the data element is regarded by the CPC as a single independent data collection such file.

In contrast thereto, according to the present invention, a file is divided only for the purpose of storage. Then, according to the present invention, each division of the file, stored in a respective block of the storage means, is not basically regarded as a single independent data collection but is regarded merely as a part/fragment of the original file which is regarded as a single independent data collection as mentioned above.

Thus, it is submitted that the technique of Elko et al. is completely different from that of the present invention, as claimed therein, each claim basically reciting the above-mentioned concept that a file is stored in a form of division, stored in respective, different units of storage means.

CONCLUSION

In accordance with the foregoing, it is submitted that the claims pending herein patentably distinguish over the references of record and, further, there being no other objections or rejections, that the application is in condition for allowance, which action is earnestly solicited.

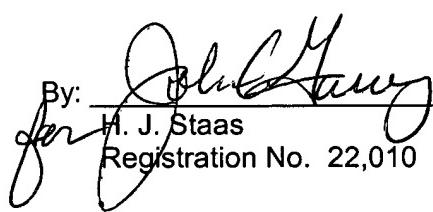
Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: September 8, 2004

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